

REMARKS

Claims 1-125 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 37-39, 43-45, 81, 85, 86, and 121-123 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Saunders et al. (US2004/0142696 A1) and claim 125 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Saunders et al. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-36, 40-42, 46-80, 82-84, 87-120 and 124, which have been objected to due to their dependency upon rejected base claims, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the respective base claims and any intervening claims.

Solely in order to expedite allowance of the allowable claims, Applicant has rewritten claim 1 and canceled the other rejected claims and rewritten claims 40, 46, 80, 82, 84, 87, 113 and 124 in independent form to comply with the Examiner's objections. No admission is being made regarding the issues of anticipation or obviousness of original claim 1 or the canceled claims in view of Saunders et al. or any other prior art. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter thereof in one or more future related applications.

The limitations of original claims 2 and 3 have been added to claim 1. The limitations of original claims 1 and 39 have been incorporated into claim 40. The limitations of original claims 44 and 45 have been incorporated into claim 46, and the limitations of original claim 44 have been added to claim 80. The limitations of original claim 81 have been added to claims 82 and 84. The limitations of original claims 85 and 86 have been added to claims 87 and 113. The limitations of original claims 85 and 123 have been added to claim 124. All remaining dependent claims which were objected to (claims 4-36, 41, 42, 47-79, 83, 88-112, and 114-120) now depend from allowable independent claims and are therefore allowable.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out typographical errors in claims 56 and 68. The claim dependency in claim 56 has been corrected from claim 5 to claim 55, and the claim following claim 67, previously erroneously numbered claim 69, has been renumbered claim 68. Inadvertent typographical errors discovered in the claim dependencies of claims 69 and 97 have been corrected, so that claim 69 now depends from claim 66 instead of claim 68, and

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claim 97 now depends from claim 96 instead of claim 86.

Inadvertent typographical errors discovered in claims 6, 15, 49, 58, 90, and 99 have also been corrected.

In light of all of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in order for allowance, and prompt allowance is earnestly requested. Should any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney of record so that the case may proceed expeditiously to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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